

Message Text

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73

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BANJUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1943

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANJUL 413

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, GA RPT GI

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON GAMBIAN CABINET RESHUFFLE.

REF: BANJUL 411, BATHURST A-105 OF 9/25/72; A-106 10/4/72

1. VICE PRESIDENT CAMARAS RELINQUISHMENT EXTAFF TO SENIOR (OVER 72) MUSLIM MIN NJIE INDICATES STRENGTHENED GOTG DETERMINATION PROMOTE ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FOR WHICH CAMARAS RELIGION AN OBSTACLE. OTHER HAND CHANGE SHOULD SOLVE PROBLEMS GOTG HAS ENCOUNTERED WITH ONE PERSON COMBINING FUNCTIONS OF VP WHO SHOULD BE IN COUNTRY WHEN PRESIDENT ABSENT AND MIN EXAFF WHO SHOULD ACCOMPANY PRESIDENT ON MISSIONS ABROAD.

2. THERE HAD BEEN SPECULATION YAYACE SAY MIGHT BE DROPPED FROM CABINET. LOCAL WAGS SUGGESTED HE HAS ACQUIRED SO MUCH LAND AS MIN LOC GOVT, LANDS AND MINES HE MOVING TO MINAG TO GET HELP FARMING IT.

3. OTHER IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS IS CREATION NEW CABINET POST AND APPARENT REHABILITATION FORMER VP AND FINMIN DIBBA WHO RESIGNED 9/15/72 DUE TO BROTHERS INVOLVEMENT IN SMUGGLING (REF AIRS). DIBBAS SHIFT FROM BRUSSELS MAY PRESAGE OTHER CHANGES IN DIPLOMATIC ASSIGNMENTS. ALSO BRINGS HIM BACK
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WITHIN RANGE JAWARAS DAILY OBSERVATION.

4. ELEVATION KEBBA LEIF HAIB IN STATE REWARD FOR PARTY LOYALTY. APPOINTMENT AMBITIOUS 26 YEAR OLD SABALLY AS HIS PARL SEC AS WELL AS TWO OTHER BACKBENCHERS TO SIMILAR POSTS EFFECTIVELY MUZZLES LAST OF AGGRESSIVELY VOCAL MPS.

5. MUSICAL CHAIRS ADDS TWO MINISTERS, TWO PIRD SECS, SPLITS OFFICE OF YOUTH, SPORTS, AND SOCIAL WELFARE BETWEEN TWO MINISTERIES BUT LEAVES OMARSEY STILL IN CHARGE BOTH FUNCTIONS.

6. CRITICAL SHORTAGE COMPETENT CIVIL SERVANTS INTENSIFIED BY CREATION NEW MINISTERIES.

7. NEW CABINET SOLIDIFIES MANDINKA HOLD ON PPP AND POINTS TO INTENSIFYED GOTG SUPPORT OF ARAB/OAU ISSUES.
MCFARLAND

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